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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:

Yang et al.

Confirmation No.:

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Attorney Docket No.:

6653-022-999

EXPANDASE AND PROCESS FOR PREPARING 7-ADCA

USING THE SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.115

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Arlington, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application and in accordance with Rule 115 of the Rules of Practice, please enter the following amendments and consider the remarks below. Applicants submit concurrently herewith: (1) a Transmittal of Formal Drawings; (2) Formal Drawings (4 sheets, Figures 1-4); (3) a copy of the Sequence Listing on paper; (4) an Information Disclosure Statement; (5) a List of References Cited By Applicants listing references A01-A03, B01-B07, and C01-C08; and (6) a copy of references B05-B07 and C05-C08.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 7 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.